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London: Printed for J. Williams, at No. 38 Fleet-Street.

T H E

Husbandman's Companion;

A N D

Gentleman's Amusement.

Of the H O R S E.

HORSES are of the greatest understanding, having, as authors affirm, a certain natural instinct, not only of the knowledge of their riders and keepers, but also of their generation and descent, knowing their sires and dams, in such a manner, that they will refuse, as Pliny says, to couple or ingender with them; they are of all creatures the aptest to learn, and the readiest to obey their teachers, having a greater love to exercise than any other beast. They are of great courage and valour, delight in war; and have a certain foreknowledge of battle, and will prepare

B

them-

themselves for the same. A horse lives to fifty years, though sometimes but to thirty.

The mares live till twenty, or five and twenty at the most; they are fit for the saddle at four years of age, for the wars at six, for the race at eight, and for hunting, or for extream matches at ten or eleven: the females bear their foals full eleven months, and foal in the twelfth, or twelve months and ten days: the best time for their ingendering is March, at the increase of the moon, or in the middle part thereof, and the mare foaleth her foal standing: they are supposed to be so loving and kind to their generation, that if a foal lose the dam, the other mares which are milch, will of their own accord lend their teats, and feed or nurse up the orphan foal. Horses are subject to more diseases than any other beast, for they have full as many as a man, and yet all these diseases may be cured by twelve medicines only, not twelve pence charge, as you will find by reading what follows.

Rules to manage horses so that no distempers shall seize them.

IN the morning drive them moderately. When they have done labour, rub them well down.

Then tie them to the rack from meat an hour, or more, and between whiles keep them

them rubbing till their tired spirits are refreshed.

Then give them a moderate quantity of meat and drink.

Let the stables be open to the air and very clean swept, and keep the horses clean.

Let not your horses, especially your saddle ones, have hay constantly in the rack, nor provender in the manger, but tie them from the rack five or six hours together.

Let them have but such a quantity of meat as they may eat up clean.

When your horse has been hard rid, or work'd much, you may conveniently give him a little water about an hour before you give him meat, and let him be well rub'd down, and stand an hour or two before you water him. Rubbing down horses is better than walking them when hot.

If you give your horses grains, as many do about London, put a little salt into them, which prevents rot, watry and windy distempers.

Let your mares with foal, and their colts, run in the fields for a year.

Observe but these rules, and your horses will seldom want drenching or bleeding; but if you find they prove too fast, the best way to cool their blood, and keep them from diseases, is to give them mo-

derate labour, and alter the quality of their food.

The best food for horses is good rick hay, about three quarters of a year old, which is much better than hay out of the barn, and corn in the straw is much better and cleaner than that which is thrash'd, or thrash'd and cleansed from chaff; and beans, vetches, barley, oats and pease in the straw is the most hearty food, and cleanseth the stomach from all superfluities. But thrash'd corn of any sort is good food for working horses that go to grafs, especially in winter, giving it them morning and night. Put your stable horses to grafs from May to July, which will cleanse their bodies, and cure their feet and legs of diseases contracted by standing in the stable all the winter. Rain, river, and spring-water is best for horses, and other cattle, much better then pond-water. To allay burning with shot, gun powder, or wild-fire: take fresh butter, and whites of eggs, of each as much as is sufficient; beat them well together to an unguent or salve, and anoint the place burnt, and it cures it.

How

How to cure all the Infirmities of
HORSES, either inward or out-
ward, with twelve Medicines only.

*To cure all fevers in general, the pestilence,
a horse taken, the falling-evil, the palsy,
shaking-evil, the night-mare, hide-bound,
consumptions, the breast-grief, the anticor,
all fatigue, loathing of meat, casting out
of drink, surfeits, hungry evil, sick liver,
sick gall, sick spleen, sick kidneys, the yel-
lows, dropsy, costiveness in the body, the
bots, worms, pissing of blood, mattering
yard, shedding of the seed, falling of the
yard, eating of hens dung, and the falling
of the crest.*

IF the horse has been brought weak by
sickness, and that you find it proceed-
eth from some inward infection, or cor-
ruption of the blood, give him in the
morning fasting, two spoonfuls of the
powder of diapente, well brewed with
four spoonfuls of honey, and tofs'd to and
fro in a pint of sweet wine, as muskadine
or malmsey; then ride or walk him up and
down in the sun an hour after; then set
him up very warm in the stable, and let
him fast an hour, then give him such pro-

vender as he will eat, and his hay sprinkled with a little water : but if his sickness proceeds from any cold cause, or from over riding and too sudden cooling, from washing when he was hot, or such like, then give the same quantity of diapente and honey in sack, or other hot wine, in the same manner as aforesaid : but if his sickness be less contagious, or that wine is not ready to be had, then give the same quantity of the aforesaid powder and honey, either in a quart of strong ale, or beer, observing all the instructions formerly delivered. Diapente, or some horse mithridate, because it is a general antidote, or preservative against all poisonous infection, is made in this manner : Take of aristolochia rotunda, gentiana, myrrh, bacchilaures, and ebori, of each a like quantity, beat them all together in a mortar to a very fine powder, and then serse it till no grossness be left, keep it either in a close pot, or bladder, and use it as directed when you have occasion, and observe to do it divers mornings together, if the sickness be violent. If at any time this powder cannot be procured, take in its stead a good handful of celandine roots, leaves and all ; having pick'd and cleansed them, take wormwood and rue of each half a handful, boil these with two quarts of strong ale or beer till the half be consumed, then strain

strain it and press the herbs, and then dissolve into the liquor almost half a pound of sweet butter, and an ounce and a half of the best treacle, let it be lukewarm, and give it the horse to drink in the morning fasting, and ride or walk him an hour after it, then set him up warm, and let him fast another hour, and then give him meat as before mentioned; do this several mornings, according to the greatness of his sickness; you must by no means forget to let the horse bleed in the neck vein, an hour or two before you give him the first drink, and let him bleed till you see the corrupt blood change and begin to look pure: to know this, save the first and last blood in two saucers, and as they cool, you will easily see the difference. If your horse happens to fall suddenly sick under you, when you travel, and no town or help near you, light from his back, and with a sharp pointed knife, or bodkin, or for want of both, with a strong pointed tag, prick him in the roof of the mouth amongst the bars, somewhat near his uppermost teeth, and make him bleed well, walking him forward, and suffering him to champ, and eat his own blood, which is very wholesome, and almost a present cure; if the blood stanch of itself, as commonly it will, piss in his mouth, and ride him gently homeward, set him up warm, and wash

wash his mouth and nostrils with vinegar, and the next morning let him bleed in the neck vein, and give him either of the drenches before prescribed, and no doubt but you may hold out your journey without danger. If by pricking the horse in the mouth, you either strike your knife too deep, or cut the vein in sunder, whereby you cannot stanch the blood, as it sometimes may happen, put a big round piece of wood into the horse's mouth, to keep him from biting, and take a little of the fine down of a hare's skin, or coney's skin, or for want of them, the fine lint of any woollen cloth, and hold it hard to the wound, and it will stop it, neither will it be lick'd away with the horse's tongue.

To cure the head-ach, frenzy, lethargy, staggers, colds, coughs, shortness of breath, broken-wind, rotten lungs, glanders, mourning of the chine, lax or looseness, and the bloody-flux.

FIRST let the horse bleed in the neck vein, and let him bleed till you see the blood change, and the corruption come to pureness; stanch the vein, and take of assafætida as much as a haselnut, and dissolve it in a saucer full of strong wine-vinegar; then take fine flax-hurds and dip them therein, and stop the
same

same hard into the horse's ears, and with a
 needle and thread stich up the tops to
 keep it in : then take of the white canke-
 rous moss, which grows upon old oak-
 pales, or other oak wood, a good handful
 or more, and boil it in a quart of new
 milk, and a root or two of elecampane,
 till one half be consumed ; then strain it,
 and press the moss exceedingly, and being
 luke-warm, give it the horse to drink in
 the morning fasting, and ride or walk him
 an hour after it gently ; set him up warm,
 and having stood an hour, offer him such
 meat as he will most willingly eat, and
 sprinkle his hay with water ; and thus do
 divers mornings together, according to the
 degree of his disorder : but if you shall
 perceive that he casteth foul and filthy
 matter at his nostrils, then you may give
 him every morning, as soon as you have
 given him the drench, auripigmentum
 two drams, tussilago, or colts-foot made
 into powder as much ; then with turpen-
 tine work them into a stiff paste, and make
 little round cakes, or troches thereof, the
 compass of a sixpence, but much thicker,
 and dry them a little : then take a cha-
 fing-dish of coals ; and laying one or two
 of these cakes thereon, cover them with a
 tunnel, such as you tun wine or beer into
 bottles with, that the smoke may ascend
 through the same : then having made the
 horse's

horse's head fast, put the smoke to his nostrils, and perfume him well with the same : and though at first he be somewhat coy to take the smoke, yet having once felt the smell thereof, he will take such delight therein, that he will thrust his nose to it. As soon as you have perfumed your horse, you must ride him forth till he begins to sweat, and then ride him home, and set him up warm ; and having stood an hour or more, give him meat as aforesaid ; but by no means let him drink cold water, either in his sickness, or out of it, but when you may ride him after it ; which if either weakness, leisure, time, or place do hinder you to do, then you may heat two quarts of water, scalding hot, and put it to a gallon or two of cold water, so that it may only take the coldness away ; and then put a handful or two of ground malt, or wheat-bran into the same, and give it the horse to drink.

To cure imposthumes in the ears, the vives, ulcers in the nose, all wens whatever, colts-evil, swell'd stones, and bursting.

TAKE a penny-worth of pepper beaten to fine powder, a spoonful of swine's grease, the juice of a handful of rue, two spoonfuls of strong wine-vinegar, and mix them well together : if the swelling be
about

about the horse's head, face, or throat, take flax-hurds, and steep them therein; stop it hard into the horse's ears, and stitch the tops together, renewing it once in two days, till the swelling go away. But if it be in any other part of the body, anoint the grieved part with this ointment twice a day, till the cure is effected. For the swelling about the cods, or privy members, it is good before you anoint with this ointment to bathe them well with cold water, either by trotting the horse into a deep pond, or else by taking a pail of cold water, and dipping a cloth into the same, to bathe, clap, and wash the cods therewith; then dry them with another clean cloth, and lay on the ointment, which is a present cure.

To cure the poll-evil, swelling after blood-letting, withers-burt, gall'd-backs, sitfasts, navel-gall, strangle, botch in the groin, fistulas, bites of venomous beasts, or worms.

FOR any of those imposthumations, galls, or swellings, take the earthlome of a mud-wall which hath no lime in it, but only earth, straw, or litter; and boil it in strong wine-vinegar till it becomes very thick, like a poultice; apply it very hot to the sore, renewing it once in twelve, or four and twenty hours, and it will not
only

only ripen and break it, but also draw, sear, and heal it perfectly.

To cure manginess in the main, manginess in the tail, the mallander, sellander, pains, scratches, kyb'd heels, leprosy, farcy, general scab, lice, nits, or other vermin.

FIRST let the horse blood in the neck vein, and suffer him to bleed very well, because corruption of blood is the only breeder of these infirmities; then having with a knife, lancet, curry-comb, hair-cloth, or such like, opened the knots or pustules, and rub'd away all scurf, or filthiness, lay the sores open and raw; and take of yellow arsnick, or white mercury beaten to fine powder, or besalgar and clarified hog's-grease, of each a like quantity, beat them well together till they come to a perfect ointment; then having tied the horse's head fast to the rack, so that he can neither lick nor bite himself, anoint all the sores and other offended places very well, holding a hot bar of iron, or fire-shovel heated, against the same, that the ointment may the better and speedier enter them; being thus anointed, let him stand two or three hours tied as aforesaid: then take the strongest urine you can get, and wash away the ointment wheresoever it was laid, then untie the horse and put him to

to his meat ; do thus once a day till the sores dry up and begin to shell away.

To cure all wounds in general, cut sinews, wounds with shot, burning with lime, biting by a mad dog, foundering, surbaiting, loose hoofs, casting of the hoof, hoof-bound.

TA K E turpentine, bees-wax and hog's-grease, of each an equal quantity, first melt the bees-wax and hog's-grease upon a soft fire, then take it off, and dissolve the turpentine into it, and stir it very well together ; then put it into a gally-pot, and let it cool ; with this salve tent or plaster any wound or sore, and it will heal it. Also with the same anoint the cornets of your horse's hoofs ; putting wheat-bran in to it, boiling hot, stop your horse's feet with it, in case either of founder, surbait, or such like infirmity.

To cure old ulcers, shackle-gall, cornet hurt, gravelling, canker, anbury, bruises broken, over-reaches, crown-scab, prick in the soal, retrait, cloying, rotten-frush.

TAKE new milk three quarts, a good handful of plantain, let it boil till a full pint be consumed ; take six ounces of allom, and one ounce and a half of white sugar-candy, both made into a fine powder, and six spoonfuls of strong wine-vinegar, and put into the milk ; let it boil till it have a hard curd ; strain it and save the whey, wherewith bathe the sore, the whey being made warm : then dry the sore with a clean cloth, and apply this salve : take of turpentine, yellow-wax, and hog's-lard an ounce and a half ; mix all these together on a slow fire, then put it into a gally-pot and let it cool : but in case the bruise is not broken, yet likely to break, then only apply the medicine, mentioned in page 11.

The bloody-rifts, bladders, lampas, mouth cankers, hurts in the mouth, tongue, paps, tooth-ach, shedding of hair and the felter-worm are cured with the whey only.

*To cure all convulsions of sinews, all cramps
whatever, neck-crick, shoulder splat, swell'd
legs, over-reach on the back sinew, wind-
galls, wrench in the nether joint, bruises
unbroke, and strains.*

TAKE strong wine-vinegar, and patch-
grease, or piece-grease, of each a
like quantity, and boil it on the fire, then
make it into a poultice with wheat-bran,
and apply it twice a day to the part as hot
as the horse can bear it, and in case the
pain is where the poultice cannot be bound,
then take only patch-grease, or piece-grease,
and being melted very hot, bathe the
horse twice or thrice a day, and give him
moderate exercise before and after his
dressing: it not only takes away all pain
and aches, but removes all swellings
whatever.

*To cure all light-galls, to skin sores, and to
dry up humours.*

BATHE the sore place with hot melted
butter, then strew upon it powder of
rosin for a day or two, then take a spoon-
ful or two of very thick cream, and with
the foot of a chimney bring it to a very
thick

thick paste ; then spread it upon the fore,
and it will heal, dry, and skin it, in a short
time.

*To cure watry eyes, blood-shotten eyes, dim-
ness of sight, pin and web in the eye, pearls
or spots, lunatic eyes, cankers in the eyes,
fistulas in the eyes, and the haw in the
eye.*

TA K E true ground ivy, by some
called alehoof, or the ordinary ground
ivy, and beat it well in a mortar, and if it
be very dry, drop a little white rose water
into it, or a little of the water of the herb
eye-bright ; strain it well into a clean glaſs,
and with this juice wash, anoint, or tent
the sores in the eyes, at least three or four
times a day ; as for the haws or hags in a
horse's eye, every common smith knows
in what sort to cut them away, and that
easily.

*To cure all splents, spavens, curbs, ringbones,
quitterbones, and bony-excretions.*

TA K E white arsnick, or mercury,
ground to powder, and make a little
slit upon the head of the excretion, the
length of a barley-corn, and down to the
bone ; then raise up the skin with a fine
cornet,

cornet, and put in as much of the arsnick or mercury, as will lie upon a two-pence, and then bind upon the fore a little hard flax-hurds; which done, tie up the horse's head to the rack, so that he may not bite the fore place, and let him stand the space of two or three hours; for in that time the anguish will be gone, and the medicine have done working: then put the horse to his meat, either in the house or abroad, and the excretion will rot and fall away of itself; you may heal up the fore with the medicine mentioned in page 13.

To cure all broken-bones, bones out of joint, swaying of the back, weakness in the back, horse-bipped, and horse-stified.

THE bones being placed in their true and proper places, according to the form of the member, first bathe the part afflicted with warm patch-grease, or piece-grease: then clap about it a binding plaster of pitch, rosin, mastic, and sallet-oil, well mixed together, and melted on the fire: fold the limb about with fine flax-hurds, and splent it with broad, flat, strong, and soft splents, and remove not the dressing for the space of fifteen days, except you find the rollers to slacken, which is a very good sign, and then you may straiten them

again ; if you find the member increase in swelling, and that the rollers grow as it were straiter and straiter, then you may give the member ease ; for it is a sign it was rolled too strait before : you may dress it but twice in thirty days, or thereabouts ; in which time the bones will be knit : but if through the breach or dislocation, you find any gross substance to appear about the grieved place, then bathe it twice or thrice a day with hot patchgrease, and that will take away the eyesore in a short space.

The chief of all medicines for horses.

TAKE of wheat meal six pounds, or as much as will bring all the other simples following to a stiff paste : of anniseeds two ounces, of cumminseeds six drachms, or carthamus one drachm and a half, of fenugreekseed one ounce and two drachms, of brimstone an ounce and a half, of sallad oil one pint and two ounces, of honey one pound and a half, of white-wine four pints ; all this must be made into a very stiff paste, the hard simples being pounded, and searsed to a fine powder, and so mixt with the wet simples : after this paste is thus made, it must be kept in a very clean cloth ; and when you have occasion

cation to use it, take thereof as much
 as will make a round ball as big as a
 man's fist; and this ball by continual
 washing, and squeezing, dissolve into a
 gallon or two of fair running water, and so
 give it the horse to drink, either after his
 heats, or after any violent labour or exer-
 cise, or when he is sick, poor, lean, or in-
 wardly diseased, and full of foul surfeits;
 and then you shall suffer him to drink
 thereof as much and as oft as he please.
 Now it may be, at the first, that partly
 through the colour thereof, and partly
 through the smell, the horse will be coy
 to taste it; but be sure to keep him from
 all water else but it only: and that he may
 the readier take it, offer him this wa-
 ter in the dark, that the colour may not
 offend him; of which when he hath but
 once tasted, he will then forsake all water
 whatsoever to drink of this only, as I
 have often known by experience. Now
 concerning the virtues which appertain to
 this medicine, they are these: first, if your
 horse be never so poor, lean, surfeited, and
 diseased, if you give your horse of this wa-
 ter, with the ball dissolved in it, as afore-
 said, it will, in fourteen days, not only
 cleanse and scour him from all infirmity,
 but also feed him and make him fat with
 sound good flesh; so that he shall be fit
 either for the market, or for present travel;
 secondly,

secondly, if your horse be inwardly foul or fat, and have either by orderly or disorderly riding, had his grease molten within him, then this medicine, used as directed, is a most excellent and sovereign purge or scouring, and makes the horse not only void all such filthy and ill matter, as lies molten in his body, and would breed most dangerous and mortal sickness, but also it comforteth and strengtheneth the inward parts, and breeds great courage and spirit in the horse. This excellent medicine is also of special and great use for hunting-horses and running horses to be given after their heats, because it cleanseth the body, prevents all inward sicknesses, keeps a horse cool and soluble in his body, and adds more courage and mettle than any other food whatsoever. Lastly, the use of this medicine once a fortnight, is as good as a quarter of a year's feeding at grass at any time of the year, and worketh as many and more good effects, especially in this, that this medicine may be had at all times, and grass only is to be had in the summer season: but whereas at grass (if it be rank and sweet) a horse is in danger of many sicknesses, as the yellows, the staggers, anticor, and many others, which proceed from the corruption of the blood, or the heat of the season; by the use of this medicine all these infirmities are taken away,
and

and the horse recovereth flesh, strength, and liveliness of spirit, without any danger, as experience has proved to the satisfaction of all who have used it.

For a horse's cough.

STEEP five eggs at night in the strongest and sharpest vinegar you can get, and in the morning when you find the outward shell consumed, take the horse's tongue out of his mouth, and thrust the egg down.

For horses that are prick'd, a sure remedy.

LET the shoe be pulled off, and the place pricked be presently washed with wine, then take the middle skin of elder, and lay upon the part affected, then drop some drops of tallow upon the skin with a hot iron, and set on the shoe, and ride as you please.

Against all sorts of diseases in cattle.

AN excellent remedy against all diseases in cattle, is made thus, take myrrh, male frankincense, pomgranate shells beaten, of each one pound, saffron three ounces, pepper three ounces, May butter, acacia,

acacia, Roman wormwood, burnt rosin, wild betony in powder, centaury, ordinary betony, saxifrage, sagapenum, dog fennel, of each half a pound, powder all these well, and sift them, and mingle with them three pints of the best honey, and boil them gently ; put it in a tin or glass vessel, and when there is occasion, give to your cattle that have a fever, or are diseased, every day a great spoonful with warm water and oil lees three ounces, but if they are sick without a fever, or begin to recover, give it with wine and oil, until the beast is well.

To fatten lean Horses.

IF a horse grow lean, give him parched wheat, or barley baked, a double quantity, and lead him to water thrice a day ; if his leanness continue, mingle bran with the wheat, and ride him gently ; if he will not eat, pour into his nostrils water that is fit to drink, wherein is bruised nightshade, and poley, barley, and vetches are to be set before him ; some grind two small cups of gith, and mingle with it three small cups of oil, with half a pint of wine, and pour it down his throat ; you may cure a horse that loaths his meat with bruised garlic, infused in half a pint of wine, and
poured

poured down his throat: if he cannot make water, mingle the whites of ten eggs with the rest, and give it him with a horn down his throat.

To feed cattle well without hay.

CHOP half a peck of straw small, and mingle a handful of oats amongst it, and put in the manger several times a day, and let them drink often, or you may put in the paste of turnips instead of oats, which will do full as well; make the paste with the coarsest corn ground; or cut, shred, and chop fir-tops, and give them your horses, and they will exceedingly thrive therewith. Some travellers give their horses a halfpenny worth of carrots, either boiled or raw, which will answer half a peck of oats.

In Kent and Hertfordshire, they cut beans and oats small, and give their horses with chaff or cut straw, and they will eat up all and thrive exceedingly. Parsnips are excellent likewise for all sorts of cattle, and will make them fat in a small time; they will feed calves and lambs very fat, and being boiled will feed swine to the height of fatness in a fortnight's time, and the liquor will feed them better than the best whey. Cows are very greedy of the liquor
of

of turnips just boiled, and I have seen them fed without any other food, and become fat therewith. Turnips boiled will feed all sorts of poultry fat, and make them lay eggs constantly without any corn at all; whereby may be kept pheasants, turkeys, geese, partridge, coots, moor-cocks, &c. I have known horses kept fat by slicing and casting them in the manger; and of all food whatever, nothing is more wholesome and healthful for cattle. You may keep all sorts of poultry and rabbits by a paste made of beasts liver, the coarsest ground corn and bran, with a competent even mixture; but I have left out the liver, and made a paste with the rest compounded with turnips. But in short, turnips themselves are the only food for poultry and swine. Turnips boil'd and mingled with bran will feed hunting dogs very highly without any other relief.

In Hertfordshire they feed swine with elm leaves, gathering them in bags.

If you would have a spot on any part of a horse, shave off the hair, and with the flower of brimstone make the place bare, and white hair will grow thereon.

If you would make a black star in a white horse's forehead, take an earthen pan, seeth it well with water, and bray it

in

n a mortar very well. Then bind this to the horse's forehead a night and a day, and in a few days the white falls off, and black grows in its stead.

To feed old cattle fat in a short time.

MAKE them first as poor as you can, and put them into fresh grass, and you have your desire.

If you want to make heifers as large again as their dams, and as sightly as the fairest oxen, only spay them when they are young, and they will sell at the price of oxen.

How to have foals of divers colours.

PUT a cloth of divers colours on the mare, for what colours the horse then beholds, such colours will the colt certainly be; you may try the same of other cattle.

The Ox, Bull, Cow, and Calf.

THE ox, bull, cow, and calf, are beasts naturally of a slow and heavy disposition, yet fit for the draught, being temperately handled, and especially the oxen, or bulls: the cows may be, and are sometimes employed in the same work, but they are more fit for the pail, or for yielding milk; the fat of these beasts is soft, and apt upon any violent exercise to melt; whence it follows, that in their labour they should not be driven above an ordinary foot-pace; of this kind of cattle with us in this island of Great Britain, are four sorts; the first and best are those which are bred in the west parts, as in *Somersetshire*, *Gloucestershire*, *Dorsetshire*, and the counties adjoining; these are for the most part of a blood red colour, with great, large, and long bodies, tall of stature, and slenderly cast downwards; their horns are little and crooked; and the milk the cows give is the very best and wholesomest of all other. The second sort are bred in *Derbyshire*, *Cheshire*, *Lancashire*, *Yorkshire*, and counties adjoining; these are for the most part of a coal black colour, with large bodies and short legs, stately, large, and white horns, and the cow the most fruitful

fruitful of all others for breed. The third sort are bred in *Lincolnshire*, and the countries adjoining, and are of a pyed colour, very tall and large of body, only slender and long legged. The fourth sort are bred in the extremest part of the north, as in *Northumberland* and beyond the *Tweed*; they are the least of all the other, with short low bodies, and very little horns, yet in their flesh most excellent, and the sweetest beef of all other; whence our ancient herdsmen conclude, that the west country beasts are best for the pail; the *Yorkshire* best for the hide and tallow; the *Lincolnshire* best for travel, and the *Northumberland* for the shambles. They have almost as many diseases as the horses.

To cure all fevers, pestilence, gargil, murrain, misliking, leanness, pissing of blood, fluxes, hide-bound, dry skin, lung-grown, swallowing of poison, worms, vomiting of blood, milting. To provoke urine, overflow of the gall. A cow wethered. Faintness. How to breed milk. The pantas, loss of the cud, and the rot.

AS soon as you perceive your beast to droop, let him blood in the neck vein, and let him bleed till you see an alteration in the blood; then take plantain, rue, wormwood, houseleek, woodrose,

shepherd's purse, smallage, and galwort, of each (or so many as you can conveniently get) half a handful; beat them well in a mortar, and mix therewith a pint of urine, and a handful of hen's dung, strained all together; put this juice to a full ale quart of strong beer or ale, and set it on the fire, and boil it till a full half be consumed; then dissolve into it half an ounce of the best treacle and a spoonful of the juice of garlick; then take of myrrh, ivory, bay berries, cinnamon, and of anniseeds beaten to a fine powder, two good spoonfuls, and brew them very well with the ale; then, being sufficiently well cooled, give it to the beast to drink with a horn, early in the morning fasting, and chace the beast up and down half an hour after, then put him where he can come to no meat for an hour and a half; and thus do two or three mornings together, according to the greatness of his sickness: but if you find his dew-lap begin to swell, then with a sharp knife slit it, and opening the skin, thrust into it a handful of spear-grass and salt chop'd together, and stitch it up again, and anoint it with butter and tar mixed together, and put the beast to a fresh pasture; but by no means let the grass be too rank, for that is dangerous.

To cure the belly-ack, all colds in general, dropping nostrils, all costiveness, coughs or hausts, and shortness of breath. A general purge for cattle.

LET the bea^t blood, as in the former medicine, then take a quart of strong ale and boil it on the fire, and skim it well, then take it off, and dissolve into it a spoonful of tar, and a spoonful of the juice of garlick; which done, take of sugar-candy, fenugreek, and brimstone, all beaten to a fine powder, the quantity of three spoonfuls, brew them together with the ale till it be sufficiently well cooled; then put to it a quarter of a pint of fallad oil, and so give it to the bea^t to drink fasting, and chace him and use him as was before prescribed in the former medicine.

To cure the sturdy, neck gall'd, neck bruised, neck swelled, the closh, and all swellings in general; imposthumes, boyls, blotches, dewboul'n, cattle gored, and all wounds whatsoever.

IN any case of the sturdy, open the skull upon the forehead, and take out the bladder, then heal the sore with the salve

following; but in case of dewboulne, where the bleane riseth upon the tongue, or in the mouth, first break the bleane, and thrust out the filth, rub the sore with salt and earth, and after apply the salve following; take the green leaves of astriloch, fresh grease, tallow, the ashes of an old burnt shoe, turpentine, tar and lilly-roots, of each a like quantity, beat them all in a mortar till they come to a perfect salve; if it prove too moist, then take as much yellow wax as will soften it, and anoint the sore places; this is a present cure.

To cure the barbs, bleane, canker in the mouth, loose teeth, tongue venomed, and the falling of the palate.

THIRST your hand into the beast's mouth, and if there be any blister risen, or the palate fallen, rub the one away, and put up the other; take of woodbine leaves, sage, plantain, and salt, of each half a handful, boil them well in a quart of running water, a pint of vinegar, and half a pint of honey; with the water wash the sore places very well; and it is a present remedy.

To cure sore eyes, haw in the eye, pin in the eye, and web in the eye.

LET the beast blood in the temple veins, and cut out the haws if they offend him, which every ordinary smith can do; take an egg and open it in the crown, put out half the white, then fill it up again with salt, and roast it in the hot embers, so long and so hard that you may beat it to a fine powder; dissolve some of that powder in a spoonful of the water of eyebright, and a spoonful of the juice of house-leek, and with the same wash the beast's eye twice or thrice a day, and it is a present remedy.

To cure the worms in the tail, general scab, party-coloured scab, itch, or scurf, biting of a mad dog, biting of venomous beasts, lice or ticks, pricks with thorns or stubs, and to be shrew-run.

MAKE a strong lye with old urine and the ashes of ash-wood; take a pint of this lye, and add to it tar or black soap, copperas, boar's grease, brimstone, pepper, staves-aker, and plantain, of each a like quantity, as much as will bring the lye to a thick and stiff salve; then with the same

anoint all the sore places; but in case the beast be shrew-run only, and have no other infirmity, then take a bramble which grows at both ends, and with the same beat all over the body of the beast; and if you can conveniently, draw his whole body under a bramble which groweth at both ends.

To cure all strains whatsoever, soreness in the sinews, stiffness in the neck, gout, broken bones, griefs in the hoofs, and the foul.

TAKE mallows, chickweed, and galingale, boil them in urine, butter, burgundy-pitch, tallow and linseed-oil, till they be so soft that you may beat them to a salve; which done, apply the salve to the grieved place very hot, either as an ointment, or as a poultice, and it is a present remedy.

How to cure all diseases in sheep.

The character and nature of sheep.

SHEEP are naturally of a hot disposition, weak and tender, and will live with less food than any other beast of their bigness; every thing about them is of good use,

use, the worst of which are their hoofs, and yet the very treading of them upon the ground is good for manuring and enriching the same. The rams and ewes are fit for generation from two years old till ten; after that they are fit only for the shambles; the ewes carry their lambs in their bodies an hundred and fifty days, according to common computation. Sheep, in our island of Great Britain, (which is not inferior to any kingdom of the world for the excellency of good sheep) are of sundry natures, according to the alteration of the climates; for where the ground is most fertile, the sheep are large of body, and deep woolled, yet the staple is but of an indifferent fineness, rather inclining to coarseness, than yielding the best thread; others are bred on a more barren and wild earth; yet, if the year be cold, then the staple is most coarse, and the wool both short and hairy; though the sheep be the least of body and burthen, yet if the year be warm and well coloured, the wool is the finest, and the staple of a fine and silk-like handling. However, it is better and more natural for a sheep to be bred abroad in the fields amongst the flock, than at home in the house; for his flesh and fleece are better both for the taste and other service.

To

To order and preserve sheep from rot, scab, mange, and all distempers.

YOUR sheep are disordered and their health impaired, if they are driven too hard, or coursed with a dog, or the like; or if they be suffered to lie down whilst hot, for by this they will often break out with the scab or mange. When about Michaelmas you put them into fresh pasture, if they are close folded, it will do the same; if, in hot weather, they be often removed from place to place, it will hinder their thriving and make them scabby; much wet likewise makes them rot. In the morning betimes drive your sheep into fallow fields, or downs, where grais is scarce, and take notice of the situation of the field, then walk your sheep gently on the driest and highest parts. If there be corn fields, let them feed about two or three hours by the hedges; about eleven o'clock turn them from the edge of the corn field or pasturage into the lowest clay ground or vallies you have, and let them lie at ease, and as scattered as you can; use them at all times tenderly, and less food will serve; observe this method from May till August, if the weather continue warm, and it will prevent scab or mange. When they
come

come into fresh pasture in May or June, I think, is the best time for shearing; if the summer prove wet about June or July, let your sheep continue in the fold till eight in the morning, if it be moist, and again let them be folded before the dew fall; observe these rules, and you will prevent many diseases, as choler, phlegm, stoppages, red-water, coughs, pains in the joints, lameness, and the like. You ought to be more careful of sheep from Midsummer till Michaelmas; therefore keep your sheep till nine o'clock, or till the sun hath dried the moist vapours and humidity from the earth, and then let them out, and keep them on the high and dry grounds; if the day prove dry, feed them three hours in lower grounds, and about evening put them in higher places, but fold them before the dew falls, and on high ground; from July to September, sheep are most subject to rot, which is occasioned chiefly by too much moisture at that season.

If wet weather happen in July, August, or September, or when it is a wet summer, a rot is greatly to be feared; to prevent which, give your sheep hay night and morning, or give them three times a week oats or other grain, mixing a little salt with it, which will prevent the rot; low wide houses like barns, open on all
sides

rides to house sheep in wet weather, also preserves them from the rot : this is a general rule in Flanders. Those that live where the rot is frequent, ought to change their sheep for hill country sheep, which will thrive and prove less subject to this disease.

For the rot in sheep, put them into a large barn set about with wooden troughs, and feed them with oats a day or two ; then put in some bay-salt stamped small, after that a greater quantity, till such time as they begin to distaste it ; then give them clean oats a day or two more, and after serve them with salt as before, and thus do till they are well.

To prevent the rot in sheep ; feed them on dry lands, and keep them late in the folds in the forenoon ; feed them with hay, mixing salt with it, and other dry meats ; nothing is better than parsley. Also feed them on salt marshes, and brackish grounds.

*To cure all fevers, red water, lung-sick
coughs, colds, diseases of the gall, jaun
dice, sickness proceeding from choler, tough
phlegm, pox, wood-evil, cramp, licking of
poison. To cause easy deliverance, increase
milk, worms inward, loss of the cud,
staggers, general rot, and water in the
belly.*

TAKE of wormwood flowers, rue, colts-
foot, lungwort, plantain, lettuce, rose-
mary, cinquefoil, horsemint, dill, tansey,
and holy-thistle, or so many as you can
conveniently get, of each a like quantity,
beat them very well in a mortar; then
strain forth the juice, and to a pint of very
sweet bonied water made with the best
honey and running water, put five or six
spoonfuls of this juice, set it on the fire,
and boil it with two spoonfuls of the pow-
der of aniseed, liquorice, long pepper, and
bay-berries made of equal quantities; be-
ing taken from the fire, put in as much
sweet butter as a walnut, and two spoon-
fuls of that salt which is called Adraces, or
Adarces, which is salt gathered (and made
by the violence of the sun's heat) upon the
salt marshes after the tide is gone away;
or for want of it, when it is scarce, you
may take as much of the best Spanish salt,
all being well stirred together, as soon as
E it

it is lukewarm give it to the sheep to drink with an horn, and morning and evening rub his mouth very well with the salt afore-said; it is a certain cure, and hath been often proved.

To cure the scab or itch, all maggots whatsoever, worm in the claw, wild-fire, sturdy, turning evil, more-found, sheep-tagged, and sheep belted.

LET the sheep blood in the eye veins, take tar and fresh grease of each a like quantity, mix them well together with a little brimstone and the juice of cherville; bring it to a salve, and with the same (after you have bared, cleansed, and made all the sore places raw) anoint all the grieved places: or in case of the sturdy, after you have opened the scull and taken out the bladder, plaister the sore therewith, and it is a certain cure.

To cure all bones out of joint, broken bones, and pain in the joints.

AFTER you have placed the member right (which you may do by the example of the sound member) bathe the grieved place well with butter and beer; make a sear-cloth of patch-grease and yellow wax, and warming it very hot, lap it about

about the member, and if need require, splinter it; and in case the member be broken, renew it not till fifteen days be past, otherwise once in three days.

To cure griefs in the eyes, and dimness of sight.

LET the sheep blood in the eye-veins, then take of the juice of celladine, that is, of the leaves in summer, and the roots in winter; with the same wash the sheep's eyes.

To cure griefs in the mouth, and looseness of teeth.

LET the sheep blood in the gums, then take of earth, sage and salt, of each a like quantity, beat them well together, and with the same rub the mouth of the sheep very well, but especially where it is grieved.

To cure sickness in lambs, and lambs that are yeaned sick.

TAKE up the lamb, and breathe into the mouth thereof, then suckle or feed it with mare's milk and a little water mixed together; make it lukewarm, and in any case during the sickness keep it very warm; for that is the greatest nourishment that can be given, and agrees the best.

Of GOATS.

GOATS are a kind of cattle that take delight in bushes, briars, thorns, and other trees, rather than in plain pasture grounds, or fields.

He is of great heat, and also so knavish, that he will not shun covering his own dam, though she be yet milch, through which heat he soon decays; and is nigh spent before he is six years old.

The female goat also resembles the male, and is valued if she have large teats, a great udder, hanging ears and no horns, at least small ones.

There ought not to be above one hundred of them in one herd; and in buying it is better to buy together out of one herd, than to chuse in divers parts and companies, that so being led to their pasture, they may not separate, and they will better agree in their houses; the floor of which ought to be paved with stone, or else naturally to be gravel, for they are so hot, they must have no litter under them; but yet must be kept very clean.

The chief time of coupling them, or covering with the buck, is in autumn before the month of December, that so they may kid and bring forth their young the
better

better against the leaf and grass spring fresh and tender ; at which time they will give the more milk.

They are very prolific, bringing forth two and sometimes three kids at a time ; the bucks must be a little corrected and kept low to abate the heat and lasciviousness of their natures, but young does should be allowed to have abundance of milk.

Neither should you give any kid to a goat of a year or two old to nourish, for such as they bring within the said time are improper for it.

You must not keep your goats longer than eight years, because that being by that time sorely weakened by often bearing, they will become barren.

These animals require scarce any thing that is chargeable to keep them, for they browse and feed wholly together as sheep do, and climb up mountains against the heat of the sun, with great force ; but they are not so fit to be about houses as sheep are ; being naturally more hurtful to all manner of herbs and trees.

As for their distempers, except it be in a few particulars, they are the same as those of sheep.

The chief profit of them is their milk, which is esteemed the greatest nourisher of all liquids (womens milk only excepted) and the most comfortable and agreeable to

the stomach ; so that in barren countries it is often mixt with other milk for the making of cheese, where they have not a sufficient stock of cows.

The young kids are very good meat, and may be managed in all respects after the same manner as lambs.

How to cure all diseases in swine.

SWINE are abundant in their breed, for they bring forth their litters three times in the year, and ten, twelve, fifteen, and sometimes twenty in a litter ; yet they will never bring up more pigs than they have teats to give suck with : such pigs as are pig'd in the beginning or end of December, have teeth immediately ; the others have not. Swine of all other beasts do soonest shew their sickness ; for if you pull but a bristle from their bodies, and find it bloody at the nether end, or if he carry his neck on the one side, you may be well assured of present sickness. Swine are to be used three several ways in the house ; that is, for brawn, for bacon, and for pork : for brawn the boar is only in use, and he is to be fed at large, and not sty-fed, for the frank hardeneth the flesh best ; the hog is best for pork, most tender and sweet, and fittest for present service ; and the spayed or gelt sow is best for bacon, feedeth
soundest,

foundest, taking fat soonest, and hangeth by the walls uncorrupt longest. They are all good and wholesome meat, having nothing in them or about them useles.

To cure fevers, bide sickness, murrain, pestilence, catarrh, the gall, measles, pox, lake, all vomiting, sleeping evil, and all pain in the milt.

LET the swine blood in the tail, and under the ears, then bind up the fore with the green bark of osiers; then take of barley-meal two or three handfuls, red oker and hen's dung of each a handful, the juice of liverwort, gallwort, and wormwood, half a pint, and of treacle an ounce, mix all these well with two quarts of honey and urine blended together; then put it into a gallon or two of sweet warm wash, or swillings, and so give it the swine to drink, and anoint all the fore places of his body with brimstone and boar's grease mixed together; and, during the time of his sickness, let his food be only dry beans spelted on a mill.

*To cure all imposthumes, leanness or mislike,
scurf or manginess, swine that are lugg'd,
and maggots in the ears.*

LET the swine blood in the tail, as afore-
said ; then, if the imposthume be ripe,
lance it, thrust out the filth ; then heal up
the sore with tar and butter mixed together ;
but if the imposthume be hard, then only
rub it with wheat-meal and salt till it dis-
solve ; but if the infection be universal,
then anoint the swine all over with swine's
grease, brimstone, vinegar, black soap,
and honey mixed together, of each a like
quantity, having before rubed all the
scurf and filth away with a wool-card.

*To cure all unnaturalness in swine devouring
their birth.*

IF your sow be given to much unnatu-
ralness, and devour her pigs as soon as
she hath pig'd them, watch her pigging,
and take them away as they fall ; then take
the wreckling or worst pig, and anoint and
bathe it all over with the juice of the herb
stonecrop, and give it to the sow to de-
vour ; which so soon as she hath done, it
will make her so exceedingly sick, and
cause her to vomit so much, that she will
never after do the same again.

Of

Of D O G S.

A Dog is a domestic animal, made use of for the guard of a house, and for hunting; the dog is the symbol of fidelity, and amongst all irrational animals, may deservedly claim a most particular preference, both for their love and services to mankind; using humiliations and prostrations, as the only means to pacify their angry masters who beat them, and turn revenge, after beating, into a more fervent love.

As there is no country in the world where there is not plenty of dogs, so no animals can boast of a greater variety, both in kind and shape; some being for buck, others for bear, bull, boar, and some for the hare, coney, and hedge-hog, while others are for other uses, according to their various natures, properties and kinds; neither are the uses and kinds of them so general, but their bringing up is also as easy, there being no great regard to be had as to their food, for they will eat any thing but the flesh of their own species, which cannot be so dressed by the art of man, but they will find it out by their smelling, and so avoid it.

When

When dogs are stung by an adder, or other insect of that nature, you must take a handful of the herb cross-wort, gentian, and as much rue, the same quantity of Spanish pepper, thin broth, ends of broom and mint, of all an equal quantity ; when that is done, take some white wine, and make a decoction of the whole, letting it boil for an hour in a pot ; then strain the whole, into which put an ounce of dissolved treacle, and let the dog swallow it, and observe to wash the bite therewith : if a dog is bitten by a fox, anoint it with oil wherein you have boiled some rue and worms.

Dog-Madness, a distemper very common among all sorts of dogs ; easy to be prevented, but hard to be cured : there are no less than seven sorts of madness, amongst which some are esteemed incurable ; but before we proceed to particulars, it will be necessary to premise how it comes, and what are its first symptoms.

The first cause proceeds from high feeding, want of exercise, fulness of blood and costiveness ; as for the two first, you must observe when you hunt them, that they should be better fed than when they rest, and let them be neither too fat nor too lean, but of the two, rather fat than lean, by which means they will not only be preserved from madness, but also mange and scab ;

scab; which diseases they will be subject to for want of air, water, or exercise; but if you have the knack to keep them thus in an even temper, they may live long and continue sound; as for water they should be their own carvers: then for exercise and diet, it must be ordered according to discretion, observing a medium; and for the latter, give them once a week, especially in the heat of the year, five or six spoonfuls of fallad oil, which will cleanse them: if at other times they have the quantity given them of a hazel-nut of mithridate, it is an excellent thing to prevent diseases, and it is very good to bleed them under the tongue, and behind the ears. But if madness has seized them before you perceive it, they must speedily be removed for fear of infection.

The symptoms of this disease are many, and easily discerned; when any dog separates himself contrary to his former use, becomes melancholy or droops his head, forbears eating, and as he runs snatches at every thing; if he often looks upwards, and that his stern at his setting on be a little erect, and the rest hanging down; if his eyes be red, his breath strong, his voice hoarse, and that he drivels and foams at the mouth; you may be assured he has this distemper.

The

The seven sorts of madness are as follows ; of which the two first are incurable, viz. the *hot burning madness*, and *running madness* ; they are both very dangerous ; for all things they bite and draw blood from, will have the same distemper ; they generally seize on all they meet with, but chiefly on dogs : their pain is so great it soon kills them. The five curable madneses are ;

Sleeping madness, so called from the dog's great drowsiness, and almost continual sleeping ; and this is caused by the little worms that breed in the mouth of the stomach, from corrupt humours, vapours, and fumes which ascend to the head : for cure of which, take six ounces of the juice of wormwood, two ounces of the powder of hartshorn burnt, and two drams of agaric, mix all these together in a little white wine, and give it the dog to drink in a drenching horn.

Dumb madness lies also in the blood, and causes the dog not to feed, but to hold his mouth always wide open, frequently putting his feet to his mouth, as if he had a bone in his throat : to cure this, take the juice of black hellebore, the juice of *spatula putrida*, and of rue, of each four ounces ; strain them well, and put thereto two drams of unprepared scammony, and being mixed well together, put it down the dog's

dog's throat with the drenching horn, keeping his head up for some time, lest he cast it out again; then bleed him in the mouth, by cutting two or three veins in his gums.

It is said that about eight drams of the juice of an herb called hartshorn, or dog's tooth, being given to the dog, cures all sorts of madness; but whether it will or not is left to trial.

Lank Madness is so called, by reason of the dog's leanness and pining away: for cure give him a purge as before directed, and also bleed him: but some say there is no cure for it.

Rheumatic or flavering madness, occasions the dog's head to swell, his eyes to look yellow, and he will be always flavering and drivelling at the mouth; to cure which, take four ounces of the powder of the roots of polipody of the oak, six ounces of the juice of fennel roots, with the like quantity of the roots of misleto, and four ounces of the juice of ivy: boil all these together in white wine, and give it to the dog as hot as he can take it, in a drenching horn.

Falling madness is so termed because it lies in the dog's head, and makes him reel as he goes, and to fall down: for cure, take four ounces of the juice of briony, and the same quantity of the juice of peony,

ny, with four drams of stavesacre pulverized ; mix these together and give it the dog in a drenching horn ; also let him bleed in the ears, and in the two veins that come down his shoulders ; and indeed bleeding is necessary for all sorts of madness in dogs.

To prevent dogs from being mad, that are bitten by mad dogs, this is done by bathing them ; in order to which take a barrel or bucking tub full of water, into which put about a bushel and a half of foot, which must be stirred well, that it may be dissolved ; then put in the dog that is bitten, and plunge him over head and ears seven or eight times therein, and it will prevent his being mad ; but he should also be blooded.

When dogs happen to be bit as aforesaid, there is nothing better than their licking the place with their own tongues, if they can reach it, if not, then let it be washed with butter, and vinegar made lukewarm, and let it afterwards be anointed with Venice turpentine : it is also good to piss often upon the wound ; but above all, take the juice of the stalks of strong tobacco boiled in water, and bathe the place therewith, also wash him in sea water, or water artificially made salt : give him likewise a little mithridate inwardly in two or three spoonfuls of sack, and so
keep

Keep him apart, and if you find him after some time still to droop, the best way is to hang him.

It may not be amiss to add what a late author advises every one who keeps a dog, which is to have him wormed, and is a thing of little trouble and charge, and what he believes would prevent their being mad; and if they are, he is of opinion that it prevents their biting any other creature; for he asserts he had three dogs bit by mad dogs, at three several times, that were wormed, and though they died mad, yet they did not bite, nor do any mischief to any thing he had: and having a mind to make a full experiment of it, he shut one of them up in a kennel, and put to him a dog he did not value: that the mad dog would often run at the other dog to bite him; but he found his tongue so swelled in his mouth, that he could not make his teeth meet; that that dog, though he kept him with the mad dog till he died, yet did not ail any thing, though he kept him two years afterwards, and gave him no remedies to prevent any harm, which might come from the biting of the mad dog.

But as there are several sorts of madness in dogs, he was not certain whether the effects were the same in all; but his dogs seemed to die of the black madness, which

is reckoned the most dangerous, and therefore he could tell how the following receipt might be effectual in all sorts of madness, though it had not failed in curing all the dogs that he gave it to which were bitten, and all those he gave it not to, died.

The remedy is this, take white hellebore and grate it with a grater to powder, which must be mixed with butter, and given to the dog: the dose must be proportioned to the size of the dog, to a very small lap-dog you may give three grains, to a large mastiff sixteen grains, and so in proportion to other sizes. He adds, that the best way is, to give him a small quantity at first, that it may be increased as it is found to work, or not to work; but that as it is a strong vomit, and will make the dog sick for a little time, so they must be kept warm the day it is given them, and the next night, and they must not have cold water; but when it is done working, towards the afternoon give them some warm broth, and the next morning give them the same before you let them out of the house or kennel.

The same author says this is an extraordinary remedy for the mange; that he never knew three doses fail of curing any dog that had it, except he had a surfeit with it; which if he had, let him bleed also, and anoint him two or three times
over

over with gunpowder and soap, beat up together, and it will cure him.

That he had it of a gentleman, who had cured several creatures that had been bit by mad dogs, with only giving them the middle yellow bark of buckthorn, which must be boiled in ale for a horse or cow, and in milk for a dog; and that being bit himself, he adventured to take nothing else; but that it must be boiled till it is as bitter as you can well take it.

Of the distempers of Spaniels.

THE mange is a capital enemy to the quiet and beauty of a good spaniel, which not only torments them, but frequently affects others.

For the cure: take a pound of barrow-flick, three ounces of common oil, four ounces of brimstone well powdered, two ounces of salt well powdered, and the ashes well sifted and searfed; boil all these in a kettle, or earthen pot, and when they are well incorporated together, anoint the spaniel therewith three times every other day, either in the sun, or before the fire, then wash him all over with good strong lee, and this will kill the mange.

But do not forget to shift his litter and kennel often.

If the spaniel lose his hair, as it often happens, then bathe him in the water of lupines and hops, and anoint him with stale and barrow-flick.

This ointment, besides the cure, will make his skin look sleek and beautiful, and kills the fleas that are disquieters of dogs, and enemies to their ease.

If this be not strong enough to root out this malady, then take two quarts of strong vinegar, common oil six ounces, brimstone three ounces, foot six ounces, two handfuls of salt pounded, and sifted fine; boil all these together in the vinegar, and anoint the dog as before directed.

But this medicine must not be used in cold weather, for it may then endanger the dog's life.

But if the spaniel be not extremely afflicted with the mange, then he may be easily cured as follows:

Make bread with wheaten bran, with the roots, leaves, and fruit of agrimony well pounded in a mortar, and made into a paste or dough, and then baked in an oven; give this to the dog, and let him have no other bread for some time, letting him eat as much and as long as he will.

The formica is also a scurvy malady, which very much affects a spaniel's ears, and is caused by flies, and his own scratching with his feet.

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In order to the cure, infuse gum tragacanth four ounces, in the strongest vinegar you can get, for the space of a week, and afterwards grind it on a marble stone, as painters do their colours, adding to it roach allum, and galls reduced to powder, of each two ounces; mingle all these together, and lay them to the part affected.

For a swelling in the throat in Spaniels.

BY reason of a humour distilling from the brain, the throat of a spaniel will often swell unreasonably.

In order to a cure, anoint the part agrieved with oil of camomile, then wash it with vinegar, mixed with salt, but not too strong.

To help a Spaniel that has lost its sense of smelling.

SPANIELS do sometimes lose their sense of smelling, by reason of rest and grease, so that they will not be able to spring or retrieve a fowl after their usual manner.

In order to recover it again, take agaric two drams, *sal gemma* one scruple, beat these into powder, and mix them well with oxymel, making a pill as big as a nut, co-
ver

ver it with butter, and give it the dog either by fair means or foul.

This will bring him to quick a scent, as has been often experienced.

The benefit of cutting off the tip of a Spaniel's tail, or stern.

IT is necessary that this be done when he is a whelp, for several reasons: first, by so doing worms are prevented from breeding there; in the next place, if he be not cut he will be less forward in pressing hastily into the covert after his game, and besides it will make the dog appear more beautiful.

Of worms breeding in the hurts and mangy parts of Spaniels.

THESE worms obstruct the cure, either of wounds or mange, and cause them either to continue at a stay, or to grow worse and worse.

To remove this obstruction, put the gum of ivy into the wound, and let it remain there a day or two, washing the wound with wine, and anoint it with bacon grease, oil of earth-worms, and rue.

The powder of wild cucumbers is also excellent good to kill these worms, and will prove a good corrosive, it also eating
away

away the dead flesh, and increasing the good.

If the worms be within the body, you must destroy them in the following manner :

Cause the spaniel, fasting, either by fair means or foul, to eat the yolk of an egg, with two scruples of saffron pulverized, and made a confection with the same egg, and keep him fasting afterwards till night.

If a spaniel be hurt in a place where he can come to lick his wound with his tongue, he will need no other remedy ; and that will be his best surgeon : but when he cannot do that, then such wounds as are not venomous, may be cured with the powder of *matresilva*, dried either in an oven, or in the sun.

If the wound be the bite of a fox, anoint it with oil, wherein earth-worms and rue have been boiled together.

All spaniels have certain strings under their tongues, by most called a worm ; this must be taken out when they are about two months old, with the help of a sharp knife, to slit it, and a shoemaker's awl to raise it up ; you must be careful to take all out, or else your pains is to little purpose ; for till then, he will be hardly ever fat and right, in regard the worm or string will grow foul and troublesome, and hinder his rest and eating.

If

If your bitch do not grow proud of her own accord, so soon as you would have her, you may make her so by giving her the following broth :

Boil two heads of garlic, half a castor's stone, the juice of cresses, and about twelve Spanish flies, in a pipkin that holds a pint, together with some mutton, and make broth of it ; give it the bitch two or three times, and she will not fail to grow proud ; and the same pottage given to the dog will make him inclinable to copulation.

After your bitch has been lined and is with puppy, you must not let her hunt, for that will be the way to make her cast her whelps ; but let her walk up and down unconfined in the house and court ; never locking her up in her kennel ; for she is then impatient of food, and therefore you must make her some hot broth once a day.

If you would spay your bitch, it must be done before she has ever had a litter of whelps ; and in spaying her take not away all the roots and strings of the veins ; for if you do it will much prejudice her reins, and hinder her swiftness ever after : but by leaving some behind, it will make her much the stronger and more hardy.

But by no means do not spay her while she is proud, for that will endanger her life : but you may do it fifteen days after ;
but.

but the best time of all is when the whelps are shaped within her.

Of the RABBIT or CONEY.

THERE are two sorts, viz. the wild and tame; those that are wild are bred in warrens, and are smaller and redder, have naturally more active bodies, are more shy and watchful, and their flesh is more delicious, by reason of the air of liberty wherein they breathe, and are not so melancholic: but the tame ones are quite contrary; nevertheless they make use of them in some places, to supply their warrens; and these, in process of time, coming to be divested of their heavy nature, become more and more active than before.

The rabbit begins to breed at a year old, bears at least seven times a year; she carries her young in her belly thirty days, if she litters in the month of March, and as soon as she has kennelled, goes to buck again; neither can they suckle their young till they have been with buck. Tame rabbits, above all other beasts, delight in imprisonment and solitariness; they are violently hot in the act of generation, performing it with such vigour, that they swoon, and lie in trances a good while after the act.

The males being given too much to cruelty, kill all the young ones they can
come

come at; therefore the females, after they have kennelled, hide them, and close up the holes in such manner, that the buck may not find them; they increase wonderfully, bringing forth every month, therefore when kept tame in huts, they must be watched; and as soon as they have kennelled must be put to the buck; for they will otherwise mourn, and scarce bring up their young.

The huts in which tame rabbits are to be kept, should be made of thin wainscot boards, some about two foot square, and one foot high, which square must be divided into two rooms, one with open windows of wire, through which the rabbit may feed; and a less room without light, wherein she may lodge and kennel; and a trough wherein to put meat and other necessities for her, before each of them; and thus you may make box upon box, in divers stories, keeping the bucks by themselves, as also the does, unless it be such as have not bred, with which you may let the buck lodge. Further, when a doe has kennelled one nest, and then kennelled another, the first must be taken from her, and be put together into several boxes, amongst rabbits of their own age, provided the boxes be not pestered, but that they have ease and liberty.

For

For the choice of tame rich conies, it needs not to look to their shape, but to their richness; only that the bucks must be the largest and richest you can get; and that skin is esteemed the best, that has the equallest mixture of black and white hair together, yet the black should rather shadow the white; a black skin with a few silver hairs, being much richer than a white skin with a few black ones.

As to the profit of tame conies, every one that is killed in season, that is, from Martinmas till after Christmas, is worth five others, as being much better and larger; and when another skin is worth two-pence or three-pence at the most, these are worth two shillings or upwards. Again, the increase is more; the tame ones, at one kindling, bringing forth more than the wild do; besides, they are always ready at hand for the dish, winter and summer, without the charge of nets, ferrets, &c. and their skins always paying their keeper's expence, with interest.

The best food for your tame conies, is the sweetest, shortest, and best hay you can get; one load will feed two hundred couple a year, and out of the stock of two hundred, may be spent in the house as many as are sold in the market, and yet a good stock maintained to answer all casualties. The hay must be put to them in

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little

little cloven sticks, that they may with ease reach and pull it out of the same, but so as not to scatter or waste any ; and sweet oats and water should be put for them in troughs under the boxes ; and this should be their ordinary and constant food, all other being to be used physically ; as that you may, twice or three times in a fortnight, to cool their bodies, give them mallows, clover-grass, four docks, blades of corn, cabbage, or colewort leaves, and the like, all which both cools and nourishes exceedingly ; but sweet grain should be seldom used, since nothing rots them sooner. Great care must be had, that when any grass is cut for them where are weeds, that there be no hemlock amongst it ; for though they will eat it greedily, yet it is present poison to them, and kills them. Their huts also must be kept sweet and clean every day, for their piss and ordure is of so strong and violent a savour, as will annoy themselves, as well as those who look after them.

The infirmities to which tame conies are subject, are two-fold ; 1. The rot ; which comes by giving them green meat, or gathering greens for them, and giving them to them with the dew on ; therefore let them have it but seldom, and then the dryness of the hay will even dry up the moisture, knit them, and keep them sound.

2. There

2. There is a rage of madness, engendered from corrupt blood, springing from the rankness of their keeping, and is known by their wallowing and tumbling with their heels upwards, and leaping in their huts; to cure which, give them tare-thistle to eat.

Of P O U L T R Y.

How to cure all diseases in poultry, as cocks, hens, capons, chickens, turkies, peacocks, pheasants, partridges, quails, doves of all kinds, and such like.

THE cock is a proud, valiant, and courageous bird. Of all creatures whatsoever, none but he rejoiceth after the act of generation. The hens are no less valiant than the cocks, if they be true bred, and will fight with their opposites to the last drop; they are exceeding loving and natural to their young, and will not only fight in their defence, but also strive themselves to give the chickens sustenance.

The turkey is not unlike these birds; for the cock is proud, valiant, and apt to fight; only the hens are much less natural, though somewhat more doating; for, from her too much love, she will draw her chickens abroad, and by her wandering will lose them, never respecting her number, but so long as she hath one to follow her, so long she careth not what happeneth to the rest. Of this nature also is the peacock, who for beauty, pride and under-

standing, exceedeth all other birds, yet only are careless of their young. The peacock is a bird of long life, ordinarily living to the years of twenty-five, or upward; he is a dish much used at banquets, for shew, more than for taste; for his flesh is not held exceeding wholesome, it being certain, that if he be never so well and dry roasted over night, yet will he be blood raw the next day following. On the contrary, the pheasant, partridge, quail, and rail, are excellent birds for the table, and more dainty and wholesome than any other: they are also excellent for flights, and make rare sport before the hawk: they fly not high, but near to the ground; and though not very nimble of wing, yet swift after they are on wing. They love not to fly long, by reason of their much earnestness, but must have many rests; but being slain by the hawk, they are the best, tenderest, and most pleasing food. They bring forth their broods in great abundance; and having once disclosed them, the young ones are able to defend themselves by flight, even when their shells are on their crown. House-doves are of an innocent nature, and very chaste, and neither male nor female change their mate, but keep together, one true to the other, coupled by the band of marriage, keeping their own hen continually, never
visiting

visiting the holes of others, unless they be single by the death of their mates; the male and female are both careful of their young ones; nay, you shall see the cock oft-times chastise the hen if she keep not the nest well; and yet they are kind to them when they are about to build, lay, or set, as may be seen by their readiness to them in that case; when the hen cometh off the nest, the cock goeth on presently. The cock will go abroad and first feed himself well, and gorge himself, and when he cometh home will disgorge himself again, feeding his hen or his young ones. Stock-doves live commonly thirty years. The turtle doves, of all the rest, are the most loving to their mates; for you shall see them always fly together, unless one of them be killed, then the other will not live long after, but pine away.

To cure the flux in the belly, and drowsiness in the brain.

TAKE pease bran, and scald it either with water or sweet whey, and give it to the poultry to eat, and it will stop any scouring in these house-fowl whatsoever.

To cure the stopping of the belly, molten grease, and to avoid bruised blood.

TAKE either bread made of wheat, or wheat corn, but bread is the best, and put it into a small trough; then put

to it a good quantity of man's urine, newly made and warm, and let the poultry eat the bread or corn out of the urine, and it will cure them.

To cure the pip, the roop, all lice, the stinging by worms, or venomous things.

FIRST, pull away the scale from the pip, and the black scurf from the roop, and lay the sore raw and bare; then take of salt, rue, pepper, and sweet butter, of each a like quantity, and beat them together in a mortar till it come to a salve; then anoint the sores, and it heals them.

To cure sore eyes, and dimness of sight.

TAKE a leaf or two of ground-ivy, or as some call it ale-hoof, or ordinary ground-ivy, and chew it well in your mouth; then sucking the juice thereof hard, spit it into the eyes of your poultry; and this do twice or thrice a day. It is a most certain cure, and often proved.

Of

OF WILD FOWL.

How to cure all diseases in water-fowl, as geese, ducks, swans, teals, widgeons, shel-drakes, plovers, hens, puets, bitterns, gulls, and such like.

WILD fowl, though they differ much in name and proportions, yet in their general natures there is small variety; they all love to live together in flocks and herds, and in like manner they fly together; not yet in rout, but like soldiers, either in single or double files; and for the most part they fly triangle-wise, one as it were leading the way, and the rest in two wide branches following, by which means they gather more wind under them, and are able to mount their flights higher, which is what they most love; some write they fly so close one to another, that the hindmost resteth his head on him that flieth before him; however, it is most certain they fly in a most decent and comely order. They do, for the most part, keep one nest, and in nourishing their young are very diligent, hiding them in holes in the bushes, and never discovering them till they are able to save themselves by flying. They are of all creatures most watchful, seldom sleeping, but when they are guard-
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ed by some of their kind. They bring forth their brood commonly once a year, and sometimes twice: but these fowls are rather domestic than wild; for such fruitfulness ever springeth from some extraordinary keeping.

All water-fowls, for the most part, are subject but to one infirmity, the gargil, which is cured by this one medicine only.

TAKE clove of garlick pilled, and bruise it a little, and roll it up in sweet butter, in fashion of a capon's cram, and so give it to the fowl, about three cloves at a time, and no more; it is a present cure for this disease, or any inward sickness that shall offend your water-fowl at any time whatsoever.

Of H A W K S.

How to cure all the diseases in hawks, of what nature or quality soever.

TH E R E are sixteen kinds of hawks, or birds that live upon prey; and though every one have in them a special note or character of much valour, yet some are much more valiant than others; as the eagle, the vulture, the gerfalcon, falcon, and such like. The valiant hawk ever trusseth

trusseth his prey in the air, the least valiant taketh his prey near the ground. The valiant hawks always build upon the highest rocks and on the steep cliffs, against which the rage of the sea and water continually beateth; and the less valiant hawks build in small timber trees, where they have some shelter and refuge: as for those that build in walls, or upon the ruins of old houses, as the kestrels and such like, they are most base and cowardly, neither fit for use nor employment. The long-wing'd hawks are fittest for the river, and kill both the hern, and the other smaller fowl, as the mallard and teal; and the short-wing'd hawks will kill them and the hare also. The merlin and hobby take most delight in killing the larks; the sparrow hawk in killing the black-bird, and the musket in killing the sparrow only. Many other flights there be, as of the pie and jay, and such like, but they are to be measured according to the mettle of the hawk, for they are flights of danger and force, and therefore it behoves the hawk to have much cunning and much exercise before he is brought to such flights, lest that his mettle and rashness become his own ruin, as many falconers find.

The well ordering the hawk is the chiefest matter to bring him to perfection, and therefore observe when you have taken him

him from the cage or mew to bathe him, that you do it in warm water and ground pepper, to kill the nits and lice, for he is subject to them; feed him high that he may gather strength to overcome any distemper incident to him; and after every flight give him casting of flannel or plumage, weathering abroad in the evening, unless in his bathing times, not feeding him up on two several meats at once; and when he makes a flight at the field, cast him off upon the first spring of the game; and when he comes to make his flight at the river, you must, before he comes near the fowl, cast him off; nor must he see it till it comes to his full pitch, crossing the fowl, after twice or thrice enduring; and when he has killed her, give him the gizzard and liver.

If you would man your hawk well, keep him from sleeping, and make him familiar with you by jumping on your fist, and then to the lure, and often staring in his face, cherishing him with your voice and bounty, that he may perfectly obey your call on all occasions, suffering him, if he be sullen or stubborn at any time, to fast; and having lured, manned, and ensnared him, that is, managed and cleansed him from his foulness, then bring him to flight, which if it happen to be a pheasant or a partridge in a close woody ground, then
upon

upon luring him you must cast your lufe into some bush or tree, so to bring him to a stand, making him seize thereon; and when you first fly him, let it be at young game, that he may conquer without difficulty; but if you fly a long-winged hawk in a champain, keep him by any means from his stand, maintaining till the game be sprung upon the wing, so that it being under him he may stoop with more advantage, and take it the easier; yet be sure he miss not the game, which may occasion his being baulked, when he be more perfect; mount him to the height of his gate, and retrieve the partridge under him by casting in your spaniels; and in this manner you may fly all sorts of long-winged hawks, and seldom miss your game.

To cure all inward sickness of body, the pantas, casting of the gorge, all sorts of worms, purging of glut, costiveness in the body, and to cause digestion.

TAKE as much agarick as a pea, and wrap it either in a warm pigeon's or chicken's heart, or any other warm and bloody flesh, and give it to the hawk to eat fasting in the morning, and it is a most ready and certain cure.

To

*To cure griefs in the head, rheums, the rie,
and all apoplexies.*

TAKE as much mustard seed bruised as will lie upon a two-pence, and wrap it, as aforesaid, either in a warm pigeon's or chicken's heart, or other warm flesh, and then dip it in the juice of rosemary and sage well mixed together, and give it to the hawk to eat fasting in the morning, and it will not only purge and cleanse him, but also comfort and strengthen the brain exceedingly.

To cure all diseases in the eyes, dimness of the sight, blood-shotten eyes, the pin and web.

TAKE of the juice of ground-ivy or ale-hoof half a spoonful, and put to it as much fine-seared ginger, as will lie on a two-pence; and being well mixed together, with a small soft feather anoint the hawk's eyes therewith, morning, noon and night; it is a certain cure.

To cure all diseases in the mouth, the frounce, and all cankers.

TAKE rough allum and beat it to as fine a powder as you can possibly get it, then take a spoonful or
two

two of the strongest and best white wine vinegar, and mix your allum with the same till it be as thick as puddle; then take a fine rag of cambrick or lawn, and dip it therein, and with the same rub the fores well till they be ready to bleed, both morning, noon, and night, and it will cure it in a short space.

To cure all imposthumes, bruises, excretions, all wounds whatsoever, the formicas, and to staunch blood.

FIRST, where there is any excretion of horny or bony substance, you shall cut it away, and lay the sore open and bare, then apply the following salve; but in case of wounds, if they be great and deep, you shall first stitch it up with a fine needle and red silk, then take twenty raisins of the sun, and having picked out the stones, boil them in half a pint of wine, till it be thick like pap, then beat it well together, and being very warm, apply it to the sore places, renewing it once in four and twenty hours till the sores be healed; but if the flux of blood be great, then you shall take merchant's wax, and drop it upon the vein which bleedeth, and it will presently staunch it.

*To cure the pin in the foot, the broken pounce,
bones broken, and bones out of joint.*

FIRST, you shall place the member right, if there be either breach or dislocation; then take galbanum, white pitch and turpentine, of each a like quantity, and melt together on a soft fire; then plaister-wise spread it upon a linen cloth, and so fold it about the sore; then splinter it, if need require, otherwise only roll it up with a fine linen rag, and the remedy will be effected.

*To take PIGEONS, ROOKS, and
CROWS, upon new ploughed or sowed
ground.*

TAKE a number of small lime-twigs, or strong wheaten straws of a good length, lime them well; lay these up and down where they frequent; and they will soon be intangled therewith; and in order the better to allure them to your twigs and straws, you may tie two or three pigeons to the ground among the twigs.

OF SINGING BIRDS.

BIRDS that are brought up in cages, require that some care be taken of them when they happen to be hurt or fall sick ; for which the following remedies may be used, as there is occasion.

For those that are hurt, generally pull off the feathers from the place, or you may cut them ; and spreading a *villa magna* plaster upon soft leather, apply it thereto.

To bring birds to an appetite, take rhubarb, agaric, aloes, saffron, cinnamon, anise, and sugar-candy, of each a dram ; beat all these ingredients together, and reduce them into a powder ; and give them as much of this powder as will lie upon a penny, in a pellet, at night : and this will make them cast much.

To purge birds, and bring them to a stomach, give them two pills of the old liquid conserve of *province roses*, of about the bigness of a small pea.

Of the BLACK BIRD.

THIS bird is known by all persons, and is better to be eaten than kept ; being much sweeter to the palate, when dead and well roasted, than to the ear while living.

They breed three or four times a year, according as they lose their nests, for if their nests be taken away, they breed the sooner : the young ones are brought up with almost any meat whatsoever.

This bird sings about three months in the year, or four at the most, though his song is worth nothing ; but if he is taught to whistle, he is of some value, it being very loud, though coarse ; so that he is fit for a large place, not a chamber : and this bird is one of the soft singing birds we have in England.

When black-birds, thrushes, &c. are taken old and wild, to be tamed, mix some of their kind among them, putting them into great cages of three or four yards square, in which place divers troughs, filled some with haws, some with hemp-feed, and some with water ; so that the tame teaching the wild to eat, and the wild finding such a change, and alteration of food, it will, in twelve or fourteen days,

days, make them grow very fat, and fit for the use of the kitchen.

Of the CANARY BIRD.

CANARY BIRDS are subject to many diseases, as imposthumes, which affect the head and cause them to fall suddenly from the perch, and die in a short time if not speedily cured.

The most approved medicine is an ointment made of fresh butter and capons grease, melted together, with which anoint the top of the bird's head, for two or three days together, and it will dissolve it, and cure him; but if you have let it alone too long, then after you have anointed him three or four times, see whether the place of his head be soft; and if so, open it gently and let out the matter, which will be like the yolk of an egg, when you have done this, anoint the place, and this will immediately cure him without any more to do.

And if you find the imposthume at any time return, do as before directed; you must also give him figs, and in his water let him have a slice or two of liquorice, and white sugar candy in his water.

As to the preparation of their meat ; soak some of the largest rape-feed in water for twenty or twenty-four hours ; but if the water be a little warm twelve hours may be enough, then drain the water from the feed, and put a third part of white bread to it, and a little canary-feed in flour, and mix them all together.

Then with a small stick, take up a little at the end of it, and give every bird some, two or three times over ; for if you overcharge their stomachs at first, they seldom thrive after it.

For you must know that the old ones give them but a little at a time, and the meat they receive from them, is warmed in the stomach before they give it them, and then all rape is hulled, which lies not so hard at the stomach, as those feeds which have their skin on.

Neither must their meat be made too dry ; for then they will be apt to be vent-burnt, because all seeds are hot.

For it is observable, that the old ones constantly drink after they have eaten feeds, and a little before they feed their young ones ; and they commonly sit a quarter of an hour or more feeding them, to keep them warm, that the meat may the better nourish them ; therefore when you have fed them, let them be covered up very
warm,

warm, that their meat may the better digest with them.

Of the CHAFFINCH.

THE chaffinch is a singing bird, that takes its name from its delighting in chaff: and by some admired for its song, though it has not much pleasantness, or sweetness in it.

It is an hardy bird, and will live almost upon any feeds, none coming amiss to him; and he is seldom subject to any disease, as the canary bird and linnet are; but he will be very lousy, if not sprinkled with a little wine, two or three times a month.

Of the GOLDFINCH.

THE goldfinch is a seed bird of a very rare and curious colour, and were they not so plentiful, would be highly esteemed by us.

They are usually taken out at Michaelmas, and will soon become tame; but they differ very much in their song; for some of them sing after one fashion, and some of them after another.

They frequently breed in the upper part of plum-trees, making their nests
of

of the moss that grows upon apple-trees and of wool, quilting the inside with all sorts of hairs they find upon the ground.

They breed three times a year, and the young are to be taken with the nest at about ten days old ; and to be fed as follows.

Pound the best hemp-seed very fine in a mortar, then sift it through a sieve, and add to it as much white bread as hemp-seed, and also a little flour of canary-seeds ; then with a small stick or quill, take up as much as the bigness of a white pea, and give them three or four times, several times a day ; this ought to be made fresh every day, for if it be sour it will presently spoil their stomachs, causing them to cast up their meat ; which if they do, it is ten to one if they live.

These young birds must be carefully kept warm till they can feed themselves, for they are very tender, yet may be brought up to any thing.

In feeding, be sure to make your bird clean his bill and mouth ; if any of the meat falls upon his feathers take it off, or else they will not thrive.

Such as eat hemp-seed, to purge them, should have the seeds of melons, succory, and mercury ; or else let them have lettuce and plantane for that purpose.

When there is no need of purging, give them

them two or three times a week a little sugar or loam in their meat, or at the bottom of the cage ; for all feeds have an oiliness, so that if there is not something to dry it up, in length of time it fouls their stomachs and puts them into the flux, which is of a very dangerous consequence.

Of the GREEN-FINCH.

THE green-finch is a bird of a very mean song, yet kept by many for its cheapness and hardiness, and by most people to ring the bells ; being a good bodied heavy bird.

The green-finch is seldom subject to any disease, but to be too gross, there being none of the seed birds so like him for growing so excessive fat, if you give him hemp-feed ; for then he is good for nothing but the spit ; let him therefore have none but rape-feed.

Of the JENNY WREN.

THE jenny-wren is a curious fine song bird of a chearful nature, so that none can exceed him in his manner of singing.

This bird is of a pretty speckled colour,
very

very pleasant to the eye, and when he sings, cocks up his tail, throwing out his notes with much pleasure and sprightliness.

They are to be fed in their nests very often in a day, giving them one or two morsels at one time, and no more, lest they should cast it up again, by receiving more than they can bear or digest, and so expire.

They should be fed with a little stick; at the end whereof take up the meat about the bigness of a white pea; and when you perceive them to pick it up from the stick themselves, put them into cages; afterwards, having provided a pan or two, put some of the same meat therein, and also about the sides of every cage to entice them to eat; however, you must still feed them five or six times a day for better security, lest they should neglect themselves and die, when all your trouble is almost past; as soon as they have found the way to feed alone, give them now and then some paste: if you perceive them to eat heartily, and like it very well, you may forbear giving them any more heart.

Further, you must once in two or three days give them a spider or two; and if you have a mind your bird should learn to whistle tunes, take the pains to teach him, and he will answer your expectation.

Of

Of the L A R K.

TH E lark is a small grey bird, that sings in the morning when it is fair weather, and breeds in May, July and August, and the young ones are able to quit their nests in ten or twelve days: There are larks that fly in flocks, and these are the first birds that proclaim the approach of summer; and others that keep more close to the ground, as the sky-lark, and wood-lark; both sorts feed upon worms and ants: they are good food, when young, and well-fed: their flesh is firm, brown, juicy, and easy of digestion. They make use of the heart and blood of a lark in the wind and stone-cholic: they are also accounted good for those troubled with the gravel, and phlegm in the kidneys and bladder.

Of the LINNET.

THE linnet a singing bird, so called because she feeds upon linseed, making her nest in black-thorn, white-thorn bushes, and fir-bushes, but upon heaths more than any where else.

Some of these birds will have young ones four times a year, especially if they be taken from them before they fly out of their nests ; and the better the bird is in mettle, the sooner she breeds in the spring : the young may be taken at four days old, if you intend they shall learn to whistle or hear any other bird sing, for they being then so young, have not the old bird's song, and so are more apt to take any thing than if you suffer them to be in the nest till they be almost quite fledged ; but when they are taken out so young, care must be had to keep them warm, and to feed them but a little at a time ; their meat must be rape-feed, soaked and bruised, to which put full as much white bread as feed ; fresh also should be had every day, for if it be sour, it immediately makes them scour and die ; neither must their meat be given them too dry, for in such a case it will make them vent-burnt, and that

that is as bad as if they had been scoured. If you intend to whistle them, let it be done when you feed them, for they will learn very much before they can crack hard feeds; and hang them under any bird you have a mind should learn his song. These birds, when young, are exceeding apt for any song or tune, nay, they may be even taught to speak.

This bird is sometimes troubled with melancholy, when you find the end of his rump swelled, it must be pricked with a needle, and the corruption let out, and the same squeezed very well with the point of a needle, then anoint him with an ointment made of fresh butter and capon's grease, and for two or three days feed him with lettuce, beet-seeds, and leaves; you may also give him the seeds of melons chopped in pieces, which he will eat very greedily, but when you find him mend take the melon seeds away, give him his old diet again, and put into his water two or three blades of saffron, and white sugar-candy, for a week or more, till you perceive him perfectly well.

The next disease he is infested with, is a scouring; the first sort thereof, which is very thin, and with a black or white substance, in the middle, is not very injurious, nor dangerous; but the other which is between black and white, nor so

I

thin

thin as the former, but very clammy and sticking, is never good in a bird. In order to his recovery, give him at first, melon-feed shred with lettuce, and beet-feed bruised, and in his water, some liquorice and white sugar-candy, with a little flour of oatmeal therein; and diligence must be used to observe him at first when he is sick, that so he may have a stomach to eat, for in two or three days it will be quite gone, and then it is difficult to recover him again.

The worst of all is the third, the white clammy scouring, which is very bad, and mortal if not timely looked after; this proceeds from bad seeds, and many times for want of water; and the badness of the seeds may arise from damage taken at sea, by over-flowing, or lying in the wet too long before they have been housed: if the bird be not helped at the first appearance, it forthwith takes away his stomach, and makes him droop and fall from his meat; therefore to cure him, in the first place give him flax-feed, taking away all other seeds, then some plantain-feed, if it be green, or else it will do him no good; but if such cannot be got, give him some of the leaves shred very small, and some oatmeal bruised, with a few crumbs of bread; in his water give him

some white sugar-candy and liquorice, with a blade or two of saffron.

Another distemper is the phthific, and may easily be perceived, by seeing the bird pant and heave his belly fast, and sit melancholy, with his feathers standing big and staring; it is likewise discovered by his belly, when it shews itself more puffed than ordinary, full of reddish veins, and his breast very lean and sharp; he will now also split and cast his seed about the cage, not caring to eat at all. This disease often befalls them for want of water, and having charlock seeds mingled among their rape-feed, and for want of giving him a little green meat in the spring of the year. Now when you perceive you bird begin to be troubled with this evil, first cut the end of his rump, and give him white sugar-candy, with two or three bits of liquorice, or for want of such white sugar-candy put in fine sugar; then for his meat, you shall give him beets and lettice to feed on, or some of the herb mercury, which is very good against this distemper for any seed-bird. You may likewise give him melon-seed chopped small; and at the bottom of the cage lay some gravel, with a little powdered sugar, and a little ground oatmeal; you may also put in some loam, with which the country people daub their walls instead of mortar
and

and sand, bruised small, and it will bring the bird to his stomach, if he be not too far gone, and past cure.

This bird is subject to the strains, or convulsions of the breast: for which you are to feed him with lettuce. beets and melon-seeds, bruised: dissolve sugar-candy in his water, and some of the nightingal's paste, with a little liquorice, so much that the water may taste of it; continue this course for the space of four or five days, now and then taking it away, and giving him plantain water; and the same day be sure to give him beet or lettuce-leaf.

The linnet is subject to a hoarseness in his voice, which many times comes thro' his straining it in singing; and he often gets a husk in his throat, which is seldom helped, to come so clear off as at first: It frequently also happens, if he be a strong mettled bird, that he breaks somewhat within him, so that he will never come to sing again; and farther, the said hoarseness proceeds from his being kept very hot, and on a sudden his cage opened to the air, which immediately strikes a cold to his breast and throat, and often kills him; for if you have a bird in the moult, you must not carry him to the air, but keep him at a stay till he is moulted off, then open him by degrees, that he may not
take

take cold, and after his moult, give him beet leaves, or some liquorice in his water, to cleanse him. Now to cure his hoarseness, the best remedy is, to put some liquorice and a few annise-seeds in his water, and then to set him in a warm place.

Of the NIGHTINGALE.

THE nightingale has the superiority above all other birds, in respect to her singing with so much variety, the sweetest and most melodiously of all others.

For the diseases incident to this delightful bird; nightingales grow extremely fat, both abroad in fields, as well as in houses where they are caged up; you are to observe, it is very dangerous when it begins to abate, if they do not sing, therefore they must be kept very warm upon the falling of their fat, and also have some saffron given them in their meat or water: but when they are perceived to grow fat, they must be purged two or three times a week, with some worms that are taken out of pigeon-houses, for four or five weeks together; and give them two or three speckled spiders a-day, as long as they last, which spiders are found in August about vines and currants. If they grow melancholy, put into their water or drinking-

drinking-pot, some white sugat-candy, with a slice or two of liquorice; and if they still complain, put into their pot six or eight chives of saffron, or thereabouts, continuing withal to give them sheep's heart and paste, also three or four meal-worms a-day, and a few ants and their eggs: farther, boil a new-laid egg very hard, mince it small, and strew it amongst the ants and their eggs

As nighingales that have been kept two or three yeats in a cage are very subject to the gout, in that case you must take them out, and anoint their feet with fresh butter or capon's grease, three or four days together, which is a certain cure for them.

But the chief thing that causes most of their diseases, is for want of keeping them clean and neat, whereby their feet become clogged, and their claws rot off, which brings the gout and cramp upon them: be sure twice a week to let them have gravel at the bottom of the cage, which must be very dry when it is put in, for then it will not be subject to clog.

These birds are also subject to aposthumes, and breakings out about their eyes and nebs, for which you are also to use butter and capon's grease: but to raise nightingales when they are very bare, so as there is an absolute necessity for it, give them new eggs chopt small, amongst their
sheep's

sheep's heart and paste, or hard eggs; and when they are recovered, bring them to ordinary diet again, that you may continue them in their former plight; but as soon as you perceive them growing fat, give them no more eggs.

There is another disease incident to these birds, which is called the streightness, or strangling of the breast; and it proceeds very often for want of care in preparing their food, by mixing fat meat therewith; and it may be perceived by the beating pain they were not accustomed to, which abides in this part, and by his often gaping and opening his bill; it also happens by reason of some sinew or thread of the sheep's heart (for want of shreding with a sharp knife) that hangs in his throat, or that many times clings about his tongue, which makes him forsake his meat and grow poor in a very short time, especially in the spring, and when he is in his song-note: as soon as you perceive the symptoms, take him gently out of his cage, open his bill with a quill or pin, and unloosen any string or loose piece of flesh that may hang about his tongue or throat, and when you have taken it away, give him some white sugar-candy in his water, or else dissolve it and moisten his meat with it, which will prove a present remedy.

Of



Of the TIT-LARK.

THIS bird is short in his song, and no variety in it, yet some fancy him for his wiskng, turning, and chewing; singing most like the canary-bird of any bird whatsoever. He commonly appears at that time of the year that the nightingale does, which is the beginning of April, and leave us at the beginning of September.

When they are taken, they are fed, as the nightingale is; they must be crammed at first, for they will not feed themselves, by reason they always feed on live meat in the field; for which cause he is unacquainted with the meat we offer him: when he comes to feed himself, he will eat what the wood-lark eats, or almost any other.

These birds are very easily brought up, being hardy, and not subject to colds and cramps as other birds are, but live long, if preserved with care.

F I N I S.



